(d) by when the rates of royalty were revised last?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) to (d) The rate of royalty on crude oil was fixed at Rs. 481/- per metric tonne for the period 1.4.1990 to 31.3.1993 in February, 1993. For the period 1.4.1993 to 31.3.1996, an 'on account' payment @ Rs. 528/- per metric tonne towards royalty on crude oil was made subject to adjustment on notification of the final rate of royalty and finalisation of crude price in due course. This 'on account' rate of royalty has been revised to Rs. 578/- per metric tonne with effect from 1.4.1996.

Governments of Assam and Gujarat have been requesting the Central Government to fix the final rate of royalty on crude oil for the block period 1993—96. For this three year period, the actual weighted cost of production will be worked out on the basis of the figures audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General and the final rate of royalty notified and necessary adjustments made against the 'on account' payments already

तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस का उत्पादन और मांग

3569. **श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

क्या यह सच है कि देश तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस के उत्पादन में आत्मनिर्भर नहीं है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो देश में तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस की मांग और खपत सहित इनके वार्षिक उत्पादन का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या चालू वर्ष के दौरान इनकी मांग और आपूर्ति के बीच अंतर बढ़ने की संभावना है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो यह अंतर कितना बढ़ने की संभावना है; और

(ङ) देश में प्राकृतिक गैस के उत्पादन में वृद्धि करने हेतु क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री टी० आर० बालु): (क) जी, हां। तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस का स्वदेशी उत्पादन घरेलू मांग को पूरा करने के लिए पर्याप्त नहीं है।

(ख) 1996-97 के दौरान और तेल गैस का उत्पादन और इनकी खपत निम्नानुसार थी:

1. कच्चे तेल का उत्पादन 32.886 एम एम टी*
2. कच्चे तेल की मांग और खपत 62.814 एम एम टी (रिफाइनरी क्रूड थ्रूपुट)
3. 31.3.92 तक प्राकृतिक गैस की पंजीकृत मांग 260 एम एम एस सी एम डी
4. प्राकृतिक गैस का उत्पादन 62 एम एम एस सी एम डी*
4. प्राकृतिक गैस की खपत X अनंतिम 58 एम एम एस सी एम डी

(ग) और (घ) मांग और आपूर्ति के बीच अंतराल 1997-98 के दौरान बढ़ने की संभावना नहीं है।

(ङ) प्राकृतिक गैस के उत्पादन में वृद्धि करने के लिए किए गए विभिन्न उपाय निम्नांकित हैं:

नई योजनाओं का कार्यान्वयन और प्राकृतिक गैस के उत्पादन की वर्तमान योजनाओं का अतिरिक्त विकास।

हाइड्रोकार्बनों के अन्वेषण में निजी/संयुक्त उदयम कंपनियों की प्रतिभागिता को बढ़ावा देना।

भूकंपीय सर्वेक्षणों और सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों में विकास के माध्यम से हाइड्रोकार्बनों और भंडारों के अन्वेषण में वृद्धि करना।

Deep Water Exploration by ONGC

3570. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ONGC plans to invest for deep-water exploration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the areas identified for the purpose; and

(d) by when the exploration is likely to be begin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) ONGC has drawn up a systematic phase wise exploration programme in the deep waters of Western and Eastern offshore areas. About 65500 LKM and 28500 LKM seismic data have already been acquired in the Western anbd Eastern offshore respectively.

(c) and (d) For the first phase of drilling, 4 deep water locations have been identified. Two locations are in the Kerala Konkan offshore on the West Coast and one each in the Cauvery and K.G. offshore in the East Coast. Drilling is likely to commence after the monsoon in 1997.

Irregularities by Petroleum Dealers in Maharashtra

3571 SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government are aware that various irregularities and manipulations are being increasingly committed by petrol/kerosene and cooking gas dealers in Maharashtra; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the connizance taken by the petroleum companies the number of raids conducted/inspections carried out, cases of serious manipulations/ irregularities noticed and the action taken against the defaulting agents/distributors;

(c) the details of the agencies suspended during the last three years, company-wise; with their locations; and

(d) the details of fresh steps initiated to ensure clean and efficient marketing of petroleum products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) 116 and 148 cases of irregularities/malpractices were detected at RO/SKO-LDO dealerships and LPG distributorships respectively during raids/ inspections in the last three years in Maharashtra.

Actions such as issue of warning letters, suspension of sales and supplies, imposition of fine, termination of the dealership/distributorship, etc. were taken under the Marketing discipline Guidelines in proven cases of irregularities/malpractices.

(d) In order to ensure clean and efficient marketing of petroleum products, steps such as furfural doping of kerosene, blue-dying of kerosene, density check etc. are taken and regular/surprise inspection of retail outlets/SKO-LDO dealerships and LPG Distributorships by field officers of the oil companies and inspection by Joint Industry Teams, mobile laboratories and officers of State Government agencies are carried out.

Action is taken against the erring dealers/distributors under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

Investment Plan of IOC

3572. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation propose to invest Rs.2302 crores on new investment plan in 1997-98;

(b) if so, the various heads under which this investment would be made;

(c) whether any outside assessment plan has been made;

(d) if so, the name of the audit agency, if any, which have a second opinion of IOC's plan;

(e) whether many of these new plans are redundant or are not lost effective; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Oil Corporation has proposals to invest